Ministry of Road Transport & Highways has informed that they have circulated a Circular issued by Delhi Police regarding need to build confidence in public for helping road accident victims *inter-alia* emphasizing that the members of the public, who rendered voluntary help to persons injured in accidents, should not unnecessarily be questioned and detained at police stations, to all the States/UTs requesting therein to take action on the similar lines in this regard in their States/UTs.

Further, Section 134 of the Motor Vehicle Act also provides that when any person is injured as a result of an accident in which a motor vehicle is involved, the driver of the vehicle or other person incharge of the vehicle shall take reasonable steps to secure medical attention for the injured person, by conveying him to the nearest medical practitioner or hospital, and it shall be the duty of every registered medical practitioner or the doctor on the duty in the hospital immediately to attend to the injured person and render medical aid or treatment without waiting for any procedural formalities, unless the injured person or his guardian, in case is a minor, desires otherwise.

New guidelines of WHO

1887. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the new guidelines issued by WHO aiming at helping national health authorities to develop reliable information for consumers-guarding against adverse or fatal reactions to so-called traditional or alternative medicines (herbal medicines, acupuncture, etc.) purchased across the counter; and

(b) if so, whether these guidelines have percolated to medical units at district levels for dissemination to general public?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. WHO in its Press released dated 22nd June, 2004 mentioned about the release of a new set of guidelines for health authorities by WHO emphasizing WHO'S support for traditional & alternative medicines when these have demonstrated benefits for the patients & minimal risks. Prior

to this, in pursuance of the directions issued by the Hon'ble Delhi High Court in its order dated 18.11.1998 in CWP No. 4015/96 and OA NO. 8468/97, a Standing Committee of experts had been constituted under the Chairmanship of Director General, Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) *vide* this Ministry's Order dated 25th November, 2002 for examining the claims of various organisations for recognition to the different streams of Alternative Systems of Medicine. The Committee in its finaf report did not recommended recognition to any of these alternative medicines except the already recognized traditional systems of medicines namely Auyrveda, Siddha, Unani, Homoeopathy and driigless therapies such as Yoga and Naturopathy which were found to fulfil the essential and desirable criteria developed by the Committee. The recommendations of the Committee have been examined and accepted by the Government. Accordingly, an Order No. R. 14015/25/96-U&H (R)(Pt.) dated 25th November 2003 was issued by this Ministry communicating the above decision of the Govt. It was also *inter-alia* ordered that certain practices as acupuncture and hypnotherapy, which qualified as modes of therapy, could be allowed to be practiced by registered practitioners or appropriately trained personnel.

All State/UT Governments have been requested to give wide publicity to the above decision of the Govt.

Proposals of Government of H.P.

†1888. SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR: Will the Minister of of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether he is aware that Himachal Pradesh Government had sent a proposal of Rs. 8.40 crores on 27th February, 2003 to convert Post Graduate Ayurveda College at district Kangra into a Special Model Ayurvedic College and Research Institute in the field of Ayurveda and a proposal of Rs. 66.39 crores on 17th August, 2002 for setting up of a 'Kshar Sutra Centre' in Regional Ayurvedic Hospital, Shimla, for sanction through Directorate of Ayurveda;

(b) if so, the action taken on these proposals; and

(c) by when a final decision will be taken in the matter?

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†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.